## Court Process Timeline Including CANS and CFT Activities

## 10 Day Response



**Called into** Hotline Report of suspected child abuse or neglect is called into the county Child Abuse Hotline by a mandated reporter or concerned individual.

**Call Screened** Hotline social worker screens call using a Standardized Safety Assessment tool and determines a 10 day response investigation is warranted. **NOTE:** Referral would be evaluated out if the hotline social worker assess the evidence and decides it is not sufficient to open a case.

In-Person Investigation An ER social worker. individually, conducts an inperson investigation to assess evidence of child abuse or neglect. NOTE: Referral is closed if the investigation determines suspected child abuse or neglect is unfounded or evidence is inconclusive and child is safe.

Within 10

days and

continuina

Referral Investigation confirms evidence of child abuse or nealect. NOTE: Child will remain at home and receive services or a petition for

After in-person

has concluded.

investigation

Substantiated removal will be filed.

Dependency **Petition Filed** A petition is filed in juvenile dependency court by the child welfare agency. NOTE: No case plan required.

After investigation

has concluded and

substantiated.

referral

**Detention Hearing** The bench officer will decide whether the child can return home. This is the first time the judge will be asked to make sure the child is safe. Since this hearing happens right after a child has been removed, the judge will set another time (jurisdictional hearing) to take a closer look at what is happening. NOTE: No case plan required.

Occurs within 24

hours of filing a

petition.

NOTE: No case plan required. If the case is not dismissed, there is a disposition hearing after the jurisdiction hearing. Often the jurisdiction and disposition hearings are combined and handled at the same time.

child.

Occurs 15 days after

**Detention Hearing for** 

children in protective

custody or 30 days

Hearing for children

remaining at home.

**Jurisdictional Hearing** 

the allegations are true, the

after Detention

Disposition The judge will decide whether Hearing the allegations in the petition Disposition is are true. If the judge decides the part of the case where court will take authority of the the judge will decide what should be done to make things better for your family and your child. NOTE: Case plan required.

Occurs 10 days after

Hearing for children in

protective custody or

Jurisdictional Hearing

for children remaining

the Jurisdictional

30 days after the

at home.

**Review Hearing** The purpose of each review hearing is for the court to decide if the family has been working on the case plan and if it is safe for the child to be returned (if the case can be dismissed). NOTE: These court hearings are dependency status review hearings, which in different courts can also be called status review hearings, or periodic review hearings.

Six months from

entry into foster

care and every six

months thereafter.

## Child and Family Team (CFT)

Convenes within the first 60 days for a child coming into the foster care. Develops a case plan addressing safety concerns and is responsive to needs and strengths communicated in the CANS.

## Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS)

Completed or updated using information gathered during the investigation process and throughout the CFT process. The CANS informs the case plan required at the Disposition Hearing.

\*Judicial calendar days.

These events may be fluid.